

REMARKS

Claims 1, 13, 18, 19, 29, 31, 37, 44, 50 and 58 are amended. Claims 101-109 are added. Claims 1-10, 12-14, 16-20, 24-38, 40-44, 46, 50-52 and 54-109 are in the application for consideration.

Per a discussion between the undersigned and Examiner Goudreau, it was believed that reference to silicon nitride in the independent claims could be removed as silicon nitride did not necessarily appear elsewhere in the subject claims. Such subject matter has now been added as dependent claims herein. Other minor clarifying amendments are made herein, as shown.

This application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance, and action to that end is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 3-7-03

By: 

Mark S. Matkin
Reg. No. 32,268